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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/016,398	12/10/2001	Raymond H. Riner	GRD0126.US	4852

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EXAMINER

ESTRADA, ANGEL R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2831

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/016,398

Applicant(s)

RINER, RAYMOND H.

Examiner

Angel R. Estrada

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12/10/01 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2 . 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "*said electrical connector configured to detachably connect to said power connector*" (claim 4) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 4 line 2-3, "*said electrical connector configured to detachably connect to said power connector*", confusing and unclear. The specifications disclose that the electrical connector is also referred to as a power connector (page 9 line 11) but in the claim the electrical connector is connected to the power connector, If 26 is referred as an electrical connector, where is the power connector?

Any further rejection of claim 4 in this office action is based on claim 4, as it is understood by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Young et al (US 5,796,037).

Regarding claim 1, Young et al disclose an underfloor receptacle box (20), comprising: a housing (see figure 1) having at least one opening (see figure 1) including a first opening; a lid (53) detachably attached to said housing (see figure 2) substantially closing said first opening (column 3 line 17-19); and an insert (50 joined with angled walls 219 and 218) having at least one angled wall (219, 218), said insert (50) being removably connected to said housing (see figure 1), said insert (50) having a continuous wireway between said at least one angled wall (219, 218) and said housing (column 4 line 40-48).

Regarding claim 2, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), further comprising at least one of an electrical power receptacle (54), a telecommunication receptacle and a data receptacle (56) connected to said insert (50).

Regarding claim 3, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), wherein said electrical power-receptacle (54) includes an electrical cable (not shown) connected to said electrical power receptacle (54) and an electrical connector connected to said electrical cable (column 6 line 25-38).

Regarding claim 4, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), wherein said housing has a second opening (see figure 1) with a power connector (column 6 line 25-28) passing therethrough, said electrical connector configured to detachably connect to said power connector (see figure 1)

Regarding claim 5, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), wherein said housing has at least one additional opening (see figure 1) configured for the passage into said housing of at least one of electrical power, telecommunications and data (see figure 1 or column 6 line 25-38)

Regarding claim 6, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), wherein said lid (53) has at least one slot along at least one edge (see figure 2), said at least one slot providing for the passage of electrical interconnections into said housing (see figure 2 or column 3 line 19-20).

Regarding claim 7, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), wherein said lid (53) includes a bezel (52) that is detachably connected to said housing (see figure 1), said lid (53) hingeably connected to said bezel (52 or see figure 2), said bezel (52) having at least one retaining hook (see figure 2) which coacts with said at least one slot thereby retaining electrical conductors (see figure 2 or column 3 line 19-20).

Regarding claim 8, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), wherein said housing portion (see figure 1) is configured to be mounted below a finished floor level, said bezel (52) being substantially at said finished floor level and connected to said housing (see figure 1).

Regarding claim 10, Young et al disclose a method of reconfiguring an underfloor receptacle box (20), comprising the steps of removing a mounting assembly (50) from

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the underfloor receptacle box (20); and installing a pre-configured mounting assembly into the underfloor receptacle box (see figure 2).

Regarding claim 11, Young et al disclose the method, wherein said removing step includes the steps of detaching said mounting assembly (50) from a housing of the underfloor receptacle box (20); and unplugging at least one of an electrical connector (54), a data connector and a telephone connector (56).

Regarding claim 12, Young et al disclose the method, wherein said installing step includes the sub-steps of connecting at least one of said electrical connector (54), said data connector and said telephone connector (56) to said mounting assembly (50); and attaching said mounting assembly (50) to said housing (see figure 1 and 2).

Regarding claim 13, Young et al disclose the method, further comprising the step of removing a bezel (52) with a hingedly attached lid (53).

Regarding claim 14, Young et al disclose the method, further comprising the steps of removing at least one receptacle (54) from said mounting assembly (50); and attaching at least one receptacle (also 54) to said mounting assembly (50).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young et al (US 5,796,037) in view of Bowman et al (US 5,285,009).

Regarding claim 9, Young et al disclose the receptacle box (20), wherein said at least one angled wall (218 and 219) of said insert (50) is two angled walls (see figure 2) and said insert (50) includes a bottom (see figure 2) attached between said two angled walls (218, 219); but Young et al lack a wireway continuous between said bottom and said housing. Bowman et al discloses a receptacle box (8) comprising an insert (50) having angled walls (73,70) and a bottom wall (see figure 1), said bottom wall created a wireway continuous between the bottom and the housing (see figure 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make Young et al's insert having a bottom wall that creates a wireway between the bottom and the housing as taught by Bowman et al to allow wires of one or more services to be mounted within the floor box and to allow wires to be routed to the electronic or data receptacles through the floor box.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Pudims et al (US 6,274,809) discloses a large capacity floor box with insert walls. Kohaut (US 4,010,314) discloses an insert device for cables. Reiker (US 5,661,264) discloses floor box with an insert having an angled wall. Fork (US 4,178,469) discloses an electrical raceway having angled wall inserts. Penczak (US 5,195,288) discloses a floor fitting with angled walls. Domigan (US 4,536,612) discloses a box for raised floor having an insert with an angled wall. Mueller (US

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5,980,279 and US 6,162,071) discloses a recessed electrical receptacle having an insert comprising an angled wall. Bowman (US 4,967,041 and US 5,008,491) and Zeliff et al (US 4,721,476) disclose a floor box having an insert with an angled wall and a lid detachable attached to the box. Stelter et al (US 5,736,676) discloses a floor box having a angled wall.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Angel R. Estrada at telephone number (703) 305-0853. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30 -5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (703) 308-3682. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for after final communication.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

AE

April 12, 2002

Dean A. Reichard 04/16/02
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